

Message Text

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FOLLOWING REPEAT ABIDJAN 8462 ACTION SECSTATE LISBON LUANDA

INFO PARIS DATED 2 OCT 75

QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ABIDJAN 8462

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EAID, SREF, AO, PO, IV

SUBJECT: ANGOLAN AIRLIFT-FUEL AVAILABILITY

REF: STATE 232635

1. MOBIL OIL REP, ABIDJAN, HAS INFORMED EMBASSY THAT MOBIL
HAS REQUESTED AUTHORIZATION FROM GOIC FOR IMPORTATION OF
3,000 CUBIC METERS JET FUEL TO AUGMENT PRESENT LEVEL OF
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DOMESTIC OUTPUT TO SUPPLY CONTINUED OPERATIONS AIRLIFT.

2. MOBIL REP SHOWED EMBOFFS MESSAGE SENT BY PARIS REP TO MOBIL'S NEW YORK OFFICE INDICATING ALARM THAT GOIC MIGHT BALK AT REQUEST TO IMPORT SUBSTANTIAL QUANTITY JET FUEL FOR AIRLIFT. EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT MESSAGE MAY BE SOURCE OF DEPARTMENT'S QUERY. LOCAL MOBIL REP INDICATED COMPANY RECEIVING FULL COOPERATION FROM GOIC AND EXPECTS NO DIFFICULTY (REPEAT NO DIFFICULTY) RECEIVING AUTHORIZATION FROM GOIC FOR IMPORTATION OF LIMITED AMOUNT OF FUEL AT PRESENT TIME.

3. IN LAST TWO WEEKS, MOBIL ESTIMATES IT HAS DISPENSED 2,100 CUBIC METERS JET FUEL FOR ANGOLAN AIRLIFT PLANES. PRESENT DAILY RATE IS ONLY 250 CUBIC METERS. AS OF TODAY, MOBIL HAS INVENTORIES OF JET FUEL ADEQUATE FOR THREE WEEKS OF ANGOLAN FLIGHTS AT PRESENT CONSUMPTION LEVEL. ADDITIONAL EXPECTED IMPORTATION OF 3,000 CUBIC METERS WILL ALLOW FURTHER TWELVE DAY SUPPLY. THEREFORE, ASSUMING NO PROBLEM OBTAINING GOIC APPROVAL FOR IMPORTATION LIMITED AMOUNT, SUPPLY SHOULD LAST TO NOVEMBER 3 AT PRESENT CONSUMPTION RATE. MOBIL REP BELIEVES THAT IF AIRLIFT SHOULD SUDDENTLY END AFTER IMPORTATION OF REQUESTED 3,000 CUBIC METERS, THERE WOULD BE NO PROBLEM AS FAR AS GOIC IS CONCERNED. THAT AMOUNT COULD BE EASILY ABSORBED BY REFINERY AT PRESENT LEVEL DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION WITHIN SHORT PERIOD.

4. THE PROBLEM, AS MOBIL REP SEES IT, IS UNCERTAINTY OF DURATION OF AIRLIFT AND POSSIBILITY OF SUDDEN DRAMATIC CHANGE IN NUMBER OF FLIGHTS TO ANGOLA. MOBIL REP AGREED TO SECOND MEETING WITH EMBOFFS IN TWO WEEKS TO DISCUSS OPTIONS AT THAT TIME. BY THEN, MOBIL SHOULD HAVE IMPORTED 3,000 CUBIC METERS JET FUEL AND WOULD HAVE TO MAKE DECISION WHETHER OR NOT TO REQUEST GOIC PERMISSION FOR ADDITIONAL IMPORTS TO CONTINUE SUPPLYING AIRLIFT. BY THAT DATE, HOPEFULLY EMBASSY ABLE TO PRESENT TO MOBIL MORE CLEAR PICTURE OF FUTURE DURATION AND FUEL NEEDS FOR AIRLIFT.

5. EMBASSY ABIDJAN REQUESTS DEPARTMENT, EMBASSY LISBON, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AND AMCONGEN LUANDA KEEP THIS POST INFORMED ABOUT ANY POSSIBLE CHANGE NUMBER OF FLIGHTS, PROJECTED DURATION OF AIRLIFT, AND OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION TO HELP MOBIL PLAN FUTURE CONSUMPTION AND IMPORTATION REQUIREMENTS. SMITH
UNQUOTE
KISSINGER

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